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THE WASHINGTON HERALD.

New York Representative, J. C. WILKES
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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1912.

A Question of Some Interest.

Political observers have noticed that
the delegates who are being elected to
support the administration of President
Taft at the approaching Republican na-
tional convention are, with a few ex-
ceptions, from the Southern States. It
is hardly necessary to say that these
delegates are, generally speaking, offi-
cials of the administration, and that the
States which they represent do not cast
Republican electoral votes.

It is respectfully submitted, therefore,
that the cause of the President would
be materially assisted if some declara-
tion in his favor could be at once made
by some one or two of the States which
are actual factors in the election. If
the Republican conventions of Ohio,
New York, Pennsylvania, Indiana, or
Illinois, to enumerate a few of the lead-
ing Commonwealths, would meet and
demonstrate that the President is sup-
ported solidly, or even in convincing de-
gree, by the Republicans of those States,
the moral effect upon the country would
be overwhelming. The Republicans
who are anxious to retain their party
in power are not impressed with the
fact that Florida or Georgia or Ala-
bama will send Taft delegations to the
national convention. They know that
the votes which will elect a Republican
President are not obtainable in the
South.

Why, then, is there any delay on the
part of the President's friends in se-
curing a declaration of confidence and
support from those States wherein such
action would effectively assist his cause?

The Case of Colombia.

The action of Minister Ospina in ad-
vising the State Department that Sec-
retary Knox's visit to Colombia at this
time would be impotently and would
only aggravate the differences now ex-
isting between that republic and the
United States, serves to emphasize
acutely a matter which has thus far
failed to receive the attention which it
warrants.

The contention of Colombia is that
it was despoiled of a large portion of
its territory through a conspiracy con-
ceived in Washington and carried to
a successful conclusion through the sup-
port of President Roosevelt's adminis-
tration. It is true that Mr. Roose-
velt has since entered into a long and
exhaustive defense of his action and
claims that his conduct was morally
and ethically proper, but his explana-
tion is not thoroughly convincing. The
prima facie facts cited in support of
Colombia's position are that a fund of
\$500,000 was contributed by the
French Panama Canal Company for
the purpose of arranging a revolution
in that portion of Colombia lying
parallel to the canal route; that the revolutionists, so-called,
were given assurance of support from
the United States government; that this
support was given, men and ships being
sent to Panama at the psychological
moment, in contravention of solemn
treaty obligations entered into between
the United States and Colombia; and
that when word was received that the
made-to-order revolution had been con-
summated, the recognition of the "re-
public of Panama" followed in less
than forty hours. The result of the
affair was the establishment of the
canal zone and the ultimate construc-
tion of the canal, a fact which is plead-
ed as sufficient extenuation for the
whole transaction.

These, briefly stated, are the main
points of the narrative which Colombia
submits as indicating that she was
despoiled of her territory. There are,
however, two sides to every story,
and it may be that all the facts are not
known. To meet this contention, Col-
ombia has requested that the whole
question be submitted to The Hague
tribunal for arbitration. Colombia does
not ask that the territory be returned.
There is no disposition to prevent or
retard the construction of the canal. All
that is asked is a money indemnifica-
tion, provided that the decision of The
Hague tribunal shall be in Colombia's
favor. This request for arbitration,
submitted many months ago, has been
absolutely ignored by an administra-
tion which stands pledged to the high-
est ideals of international relationship.
It would seem, therefore, that Col-
ombia has some ground for protest. It
is surprising that the United States
has not consented to the desired arbitra-
tion. If our conduct has been without
reproach, if all the serious allegations

of conspiracy and bad faith have no
foundation in fact, we can well afford
to await with confidence the final judg-
ment of The Hague tribunal. We can-
not, however, honestly praise the vir-
tues of arbitration with fervid oratory
when, at the same time, we decline to
accept that method of determining a
question which involves our national in-
tegrity.

Wise Use of a Great Fortune.

In deciding to devote his vast for-
tune to building of good roads in Dela-
ware, Gen. T. Coleman Du Pont has
acted wisely. He believes that if he
bequeaths a million dollars to his family
it will be sufficient for their needs, and
the remainder of his wealth can be ex-
pended in the public interest.

Long after the wealthy donor has
passed away, the Du Pont roads will be
his indestructible monument.

Cold Storage Legislation.

Senator Gallinger has introduced a
bill in the Senate which, if enacted into
law, will accomplish a much-needed re-
form in the matter of cold storage. Di-
vested of its legal phraseology, the
measure proposes that all articles of
food placed in cold storage shall bear a
brand showing plainly the date upon
which such article was placed in re-
frigeration; that there shall be govern-
mental inspection of cold storage
plants; that reports as to the amount of
food in cold storage and the length of
time it has been so stored shall be made
three times a year, and that food taken
out of cold storage for sale shall not be
returned to such storage.

Legislation along the same lines has
recently been enacted by the New York
legislature and its validity has been sus-
tained by the Court of Appeals in a
test case instituted by a cold storage
company. Medical associations, both
American and international, have for
years appealed to the legislative au-
thorities for a law regulating the cold
storage of food, it being a recognized
fact that nearly all the cases of so-
called acute indigestion are due to
ptomaine poisoning resulting from eat-
ing food which has been stored for too
long a period.

Much has been accomplished in this
country in the direction of affording
the public necessary protection in the
matter of food, but until the legislation
now suggested shall have been enacted
the record will not be complete. The
subject is one to which Congress can
well afford to give prompt and earnest
consideration. It is reasonable to sug-
gest that if investigation can follow the
use of carbolic acid and other poisons,
the illness which follows ptomaine poi-
soning is equally a matter of public
concern.

BANANAS.

A writer in the Journal of the Ameri-
can Medical Association defends "The
much-abused banana." Prefacing his
article with the observation that the
human being needs fruits in his daily
diet, and that transportation and dis-
tributive agencies have made it possible
for the family in northern climes to be
supplied by the southern fruit tree, he
enters a plea for the use of the banana.
This writer says much distrust has
been cast upon the banana because peo-
ple do not understand the condition in
which the fruit should be when eaten.
He explains that the exigencies of
transportation and distribution require
that the bunches of bananas should be
picked green, brought to the United
States and ripened by artificial heat or
long exposure to the air. He declares
that all danger to the human digestion
lies in the green banana.

When the fruit is picked for ship-
ment to a distance it contains about
one-third raw starch—a useless and in-
digestible food when taken by man. In
the ripening process this starch turns
to sugar, and the fruit becomes sweet,
and when really ripe it contains about
one-third sugar, with water and other
food materials. This being the case, the
writer declares that the fruit should
not be used until it is well ripened,
that fact being proclaimed to the eye
by the shriveling of the outer skin and
black blotches appearing thereon.
It is declared that even the smooth,
yellow banana often sold is only half
ripened and contains a large quantity
of raw, indigestible starch, but that
when ripe, no fruit is better.

It is encouraging thus to be told how
and when scientifically to eat bananas
with least distress and greatest benefit.

ARIZONA.

From the Arizona Gazette.
Born, to the United States, a new
State.

From the Florida Times-Lake.
Arizona got her State flag as her valen-
tine—life forty-eight in magnitude.

From the Des Moines Tribune.
Wonder if Arizona is feeling different
nowadays when she wakes up in the
morning?

From the Omaha Star.
Arizona is now in the sisterhood of
States, and when Alaska comes in the
girls will all be at home.

From the Greenville (S. C.) News.
Arizona is now one of the States in
the Union. Her chief mission seems to
be to act as an antidote to New Mexico.

From the Rochester Herald.
The inauguration of the first governor
of Arizona must have been pulled off
without any errors. Col. Bryan didn't
object.

From the Houston Post.
Mr. Bryan refused to tell the Arizoni-
ans whether he would be a candidate
for President. Our Nebraska friend may
have sensed the deadlock trail himself.

From the Boston Post.
There is no contempt like that existing
between two people who know it all.

A LITTLE NONSENSE.

THE OLD JOKER.
Young George, he took a back one day
At a fine time.
Who drove the back? Alas, alas,
Is that old william back?
It seems to be.

Young George a silver dollar threw
A mile or more.
A dollar would go farther then,
A joke which all the funny men
Have used before.

Uncle Pennsylvania Says:
My wife and myself have been married
thirty years now without a quarrel, but
my friends still claim it can't last.

The Usual Stock.
There are no really new jokes going
the rounds. You'll admit that, won't
you?

"I'll admit there are no new cherry
tree jokes," responded the press humor-
ist with a sigh.

February 20 in History.
February 20, 1795—Little George Wash-
ington is promised a hatchet for his
birthday, at which he is greatly pleased.

February 20, 1828—Times are hard in
Grub street. Boswell books Johnson's
watch for him.

Gene to Waste.
"I don't like the way they reported my
speech," complained the new Congress-
man.
"Why, they sprinkled in plenty of
laughter and applause."
"Yes, but how about all them ges-
tures?"

Arranging the Apocrypha.
The Jokemist weaves his tangled web
And tries to do
A little paragraph on Feb.
The 20.

One Way.
"I'm earning money to pay my way
through college."
"Brave girl. How do you earn money?"
"Well, father gives me \$5 for every
singing lesson I don't take."

Not Essential.
"I don't quite grasp the idea in this
poem of yours."
"Don't try," advised the author. "A
man doesn't always have an idea every
time he writes a poem."

Helps Business.
"Six young men," commented the for-
eign, "have ordered violets for that girl
to-day."
"Must be great competition among
them."
"Evidently. And that sort of competi-
tion is certainly the life of trade."

Their Loss.
"English humor is said to be rather
dull."
"Their field is not so wide as ours.
You take the cherry tree out of a na-
tional literature, and you have an awful
gap."

THE AINSWORTH EPISODE.
From the Florida Times-Lake.
That Ainsworth affair shows that the
army is at last big enough to get up a
seniority.

From the Knoxville Journal-News.
Major Ainsworth, army officer, had an
epileptic seizure. Dangerous thing
for an army man to have.

From the Buffalo News.
Gen. Ainsworth will learn that it is not
expedient for one employee of the gov-
ernment to score another. Pinchot might
have told him that.

From the St. Louis Star.
Gen. Ainsworth has retired, which, in
view of the fact that a court-martial
would have been composed of retired of-
ficers of long service in the field, and
not especially well disposed toward a
mere office soldier, was wise.

From the Boston Post.
Probably a very disagreeable army
scandal was hushed up by Gen. Ains-
worth's retirement, at his own request,
just as things were about to happen with
him as the center of a court-martial. But
why put the army under further suffer-
ing by hushing things up? And then this
country has become so used to scandal
among people in official and other
branches of so-called high life that one
more or less wouldn't be noticed.

DOWN IN MEXICO.
From the Pittsburgh Post.
If Mexico doesn't begin to till the soil
soon she'll have no provender and no
peas to buy any.

From the Florida Times-Lake.
Mexico is well fixed for producing a
bountiful supply of Daughters of the
Revolution.

From the Knoxville Journal-News.
Shame on those bloody Mexicans. Even
the Yanqui Indians are trying to persuade
them to behave.

From the St. Paul Dispatch.
Porfirio Diaz may have been a little
desperate at first, but even his worst
enemies will admit there was not much
doing in the revolutionary line while he
was at his best.

From the St. Louis Republic.
They say that since Mr. Taft has de-
cided to fight for his political life, his
prospects are greatly improved. That is
the case also with Mr. Madero in Mexico.
Given in a free country it is necessary
to a while to wallop an insurgent
and to force a lot of wild Indians to re-
turn to the reservation.

Needs No Dreadnoughts.
From the St. Paul Dispatch.
It is announced that Dr. Sun, the Ameri-
can citizen, having been born in Hawaii.
However, he seems to be one American
citizen who can take care of himself, and
will not need the protection of any of
our Dreadnoughts.

From the Florida Times-Lake.
Arizona got her State flag as her valen-
tine—life forty-eight in magnitude.

From the Des Moines Tribune.
Wonder if Arizona is feeling different
nowadays when she wakes up in the
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THE POLITICAL PROCESSION

By FRANCIS B. GOSNEN.
Senator Owen, of Oklahoma, has head-
ed the advice of his friends and has
come home to begin an active campaign
for another term in the Senate. Evident-
ly the activity of Charles M. Haskell, late
governor and ever in a state of political
agitation, has aroused criticism and com-
pelled him to take personal command.
While he expressed confidence in his
ability to cope with the Haskell resources
and methods, there were signs that the
Senator is not viewing the situation with
uncertainty. During the four years Has-
kell was in the governor's office he built
up a machine, and his personal following
has ever been considerable since he first
hung out his sign as a lawyer and State
builder.

The career of Haskell in Oklahoma has
been little less than a marvel. Thirteen
years ago he was voted for in an
Ohio convention as a candidate for gov-
ernor, and made a remarkable showing
against great odds. He did not win the
nomination, but he did make himself
respected as an organizer. The short
time that he remained a candidate in Ohio.
Nor was it so many years ago that
Haskell was operating in the New York
financial district—not exactly on Wall
street, but with people who had close
connections with the money end of things.
He was a railroad builder then, and the
ultimate outcome was not exactly as he
wished or expected, but his attack was
a blinding in disguise, as it sent him
westward to become a politician. Some-
how he came to the Senate, as he him-
self predicts he will, there will be much
done during his term, and his name will
figure in the newspaper headlines.

Mr. Haskell is fully as good a politi-
cian as her husband, and her activity has
had much to do with his advancement in
both politics and business. Somehow
those who know Haskell and his family
are eager to see him Senator, if only for
the diversion his presence and methods
would give to the Washington atmos-
phere.

Sharp Fight in West Virginia.
Virgil Highland, of Charleston, the new
Republican State chairman in West
Virginia, has taken hold of things with
the grip of a veteran. His first official
act was to call an early State conven-
tion for the selection of delegates to the
Republican national convention. And
his wisdom was apparent when he lo-
cated the convention at Huntington, in
the southern section of the State, a sec-
tion, too, where President Taft's friends,
like Isaac T. Mann, W. F. Hite, and
Taylor Vinson, are powerful. The date
is May 10, a week earlier than the pri-
mary in Ohio, and it was evident a week
ago here in Washington that the Taft
people were anxious to have West Vir-
ginia do business early as an offset to
Gov. Glasscock's outburst for Roosevelt.

Almost every day of last week West
Virginia leaders, including Chairman
Highland, Howard Fleming, and others
of the old guard, were in conference at
the White House and with Manager Mc-
Kinley.

The result of the many meetings was
quick and energetic action for an early
convention and the placing of that con-
vention in the region where President
Taft is strongest. "There is a Con-
gressman-at-large, to be chosen by West
Virginia this year, there will be six dele-
gates-at-large instead of the customary
four."

The Roosevelt organization will seek
to name the six delegates-at-large and
carry the fight into each district as well.
The first sign of its campaign will be
a big popular demonstration at Parkers-
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Highland, Howard Fleming, and others
of the old guard, were in conference at
the White House and with Manager Mc-
Kinley.

The result of the many meetings was
quick and energetic action for an early
convention and the placing of that con-
vention in the region where President
Taft is strongest. "There is a Con-
gressman-at-large, to be chosen by West
Virginia this year, there will be six dele-
gates-at-large instead of the customary
four."

The Roosevelt organization will seek
to name the six delegates-at-large and
carry the fight into each district as well.
The first sign of its campaign will be
a big popular demonstration at Parkers-
burg on February 23, and William Sey-
mour Edwards, who was an original
Taft delegate to the last national con-
vention, is the last national conven-
tion, and it was evident a week
ago here in Washington that the Taft
people were anxious to have West Vir-
ginia do business early as an offset to
Gov. Glasscock's outburst for Roosevelt.

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PAPER AND FLOUR

MILLS IN BLAZE

Old Georgetown Structures Prove
Easy Prey to Flames—Whole
River Front Endangered.

At 3:15 o'clock this morning fire is
threatening to destroy the whole of the
Georgetown water front from Thirty-
second to Thirty-fourth street.

Three alarms have been sounded and
the fire department is now on the scene.
The District of Columbia Paper Mills
are beyond control, and the American
Ice Company's property has caught fire,
and the Arlington Flour Mills, owned by
the George W. Chase Company, is in dan-
ger.

The career of Haskell in Oklahoma has
been little less than a marvel. Thirteen
years ago he was voted for in an
Ohio convention as a candidate for gov-
ernor, and made a remarkable showing
against great odds. He did not win the
nomination, but he did make himself
respected as an organizer. The short
time that he remained a candidate in Ohio.
Nor was it so many years ago that
Haskell was operating in the New York
financial district—not exactly on Wall
street, but with people who had close
connections with the money end of things.
He was a railroad builder then, and the
ultimate outcome was not exactly as he
wished or expected, but his attack was
a blinding in disguise, as it sent him
westward to become a politician. Some-
how he came to the Senate, as he him-
self predicts he will, there will be much
done during his term, and his name will
figure in the newspaper headlines.

Mr. Haskell is fully as good a politi-<